

CHAPTER 15: ARTS AND CULTURE

Fort Worth residents and visitors enjoy the arts through a variety of local organizations, special events, and programs that provide a distinctive blend of Western heritage and high culture. Within just a few miles, one is able to experience bull riding and equestrian events, as well as a night at the opera or a major museum exhibition. Many of these cultural experiences are evident in Downtown, the Cultural District, and the Historic Stockyards. In addition, unique art and cultural experiences are available within Fort Worth neighborhoods.

EXISTING CONDITIONS AND TRENDS

The Cultural District, Downtown, and the Historic Stockyards are Fort Worth's three unique arts and entertainment districts. Together, these destinations draw a total of seven million visitors each year. Neighborhood art facilities, performing arts organizations, and public art also add to the character and culture of Fort Worth. Fort Worth's artistic and cultural activities are promoted by the festivals held throughout the city each year, in addition to the activities undertaken by the Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County.

Cultural District

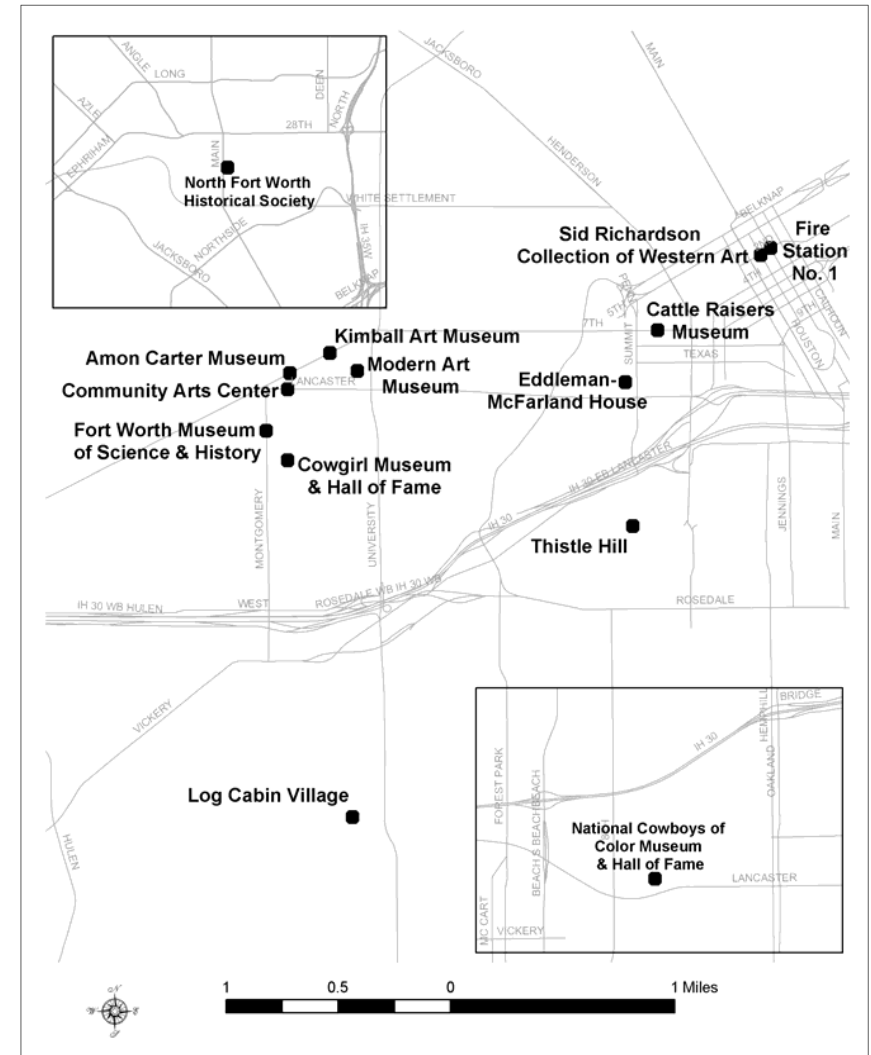
No single place captures the diversity of Fort Worth more than the Cultural District, where culture is presented in its broadest sense: from the art, music, theater, and dance typically associated with cultural facilities, to agriculture, equestrian activities, horticulture, and sports.

This area, the nation's third largest cultural district, is located just west of Downtown above the banks of the Trinity River. In the late 1890s, the City of Fort Worth purchased the land south of 7th Street on both sides of the Clear Fork. In 1936, the City purchased 138 acres of the Van Zandt tract along Lancaster Avenue for Fort Worth Frontier Centennial, part of the Texas Centennial Birthday Celebration. Much of the land in the Cultural District is owned by the City of Fort Worth, including Trinity Park and Fort Worth Botanic Garden. Many of the museums in the District lease land from the City.

The Cultural District is home to several world-class art museums, including the Kimbell Art Museum, Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, and the Amon Carter Museum. The Kimbell Art Museum was designed by Louis Kahn and opened in 1972. The 22,000 square foot gallery space houses a variety of world-renowned artwork. The Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, the second most popular museum in Texas, attracts more than 1.15 million visitors each year and was the first museum in Texas to top the million mark for visitors. The museum also touts the country's largest museum school, with 4,500 students aged three through eight.

The success enjoyed by museums in the Cultural District has led to several new and expanding facilities that are completed, under construction, on the drawing board or

Museums in Fort Worth



Fort Worth has 13 museums, six of which are grouped in the Cultural District west of Downtown. (Source: Planning Department, 2004.)

being seriously discussed. One example is the \$39 million addition to the original Amon Carter Museum, designed by Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie Architects, which tripled the exhibition space showcasing the Museum's renowned collection of American Western art. The addition also includes an expanded research library, a beautifully-designed reading room, expanded educational facilities, and spacious new galleries for the display of traveling exhibitions.

The Fort Worth Community Arts Center has been open since November 2002 under the management of the Arts Council of Fort Worth & Tarrant County (www.fwcac.com). The 77,000 square foot former Museum of Modern Art building, which includes the 500-seat Scott Theater and nine art galleries, is now home to 14 arts organizations. In its second year, over 65,000 visitors enjoyed exhibitions of contemporary art by regional artists, as well as a host of theater and other cultural events and meetings. In 2004, the Arts Council converted the former Solarium space into 150-seat flexible theatre space or "black box theater" in keeping with the adaptive reuse plan for the building. The Hardy and Betty Sanders Theatre has been used for all types of "grass roots" cultural activities. In 2006, the Arts Council hopes to develop the lower level of the building into classroom space for multi disciplinary arts education uses for both children and adults.

Other recent district projects include the David Schwarz-designed Western Heritage Plaza and the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame, which opened in June 2002, and the new \$60 million Modern Art Museum designed by Tadao Ando on an 11-acre site located just east of the Kimbell Art Museum. Simultaneously, the City completed reconstruction of the intersection at University Drive, West Seventh Street, Bailey Avenue, and Camp Bowie Boulevard. Future developments include the Cattle Raisers Museum, a major expansion of the Fort Worth Museum of Science and History, a new Arabian Horse Museum, and new parking facilities and pedestrian walkways. Also proposed is a 12,000-seat Will Rogers arena for hosting events ranging from rodeos to ice hockey.

The Fort Worth Botanic Garden is the oldest botanic garden in Texas, covering over 118 acres and exhibiting 2,500 exotic and native plants and a number of specialty gardens, such as the Japanese Garden. The Fort Worth Zoo has been ranked as one of the top five zoos in the nation, and attracts more than 1.2 million visitors each year. Casa Mañana Theatre, the city's only theater-in-the-round, produces live entertainment year-round, including plays, musicals, concerts, and children's theater. Casa Mañana also presents Broadway national tours at Bass Performance Hall in Downtown. After a decade of careful planning and fundraising, a thoughtful renovation of Casa Mañana Theatre has been completed.

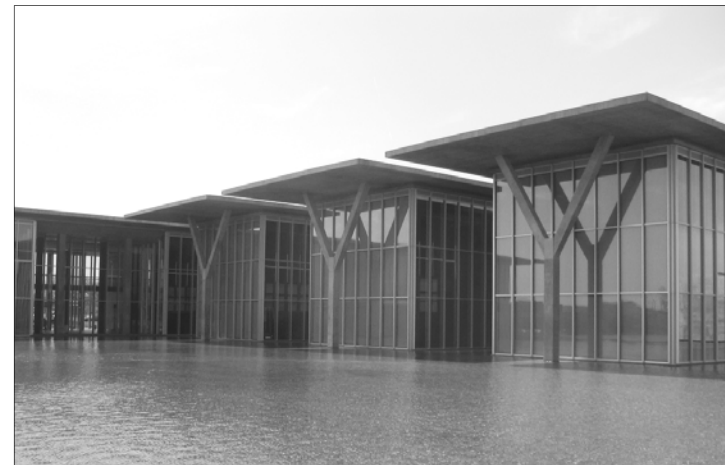
The Will Rogers Memorial Center is a multi-purpose entertainment complex with 45 acres of roof. Located in the heart of the Cultural District on a little over 85 acres of land, this City-owned center generates more than \$200 million from an estimated 2.5 million visitors each year. Livestock and equestrian activities, among other events, are held at the 5,900-seat Will Rogers Coliseum, home of the world's oldest indoor

Kimbell Art Museum



The Kimbell Art Museum, designed by Louis Kahn, has 22,000 square feet of gallery space that houses world renowned art work. (Source: City of Fort Worth, 1998.)

Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth



The new Modern Art Museum of Fort Worth, designed by acclaimed Japanese architect Tadao Ando, opened in December of 2002 in the Cultural District. It embodies the principles of classical Japanese architecture while employing modern Western techniques. The museum features 53,000 square feet of gallery space, a 1.5-acre pond, a cafe overlooking the water, and a 250-seat auditorium. (Source: City of Fort Worth, 2006.)

rodeo and the annual Southwestern Exposition & Livestock Show. This unique three-week long event, referred to as the “Stock Show,” celebrated its Centennial in January 1996, and attracts over 900,000 people annually.

The Fort Worth Cultural District Master Plan was completed in 1990, and provides a comprehensive look at the Cultural District. While many of the plan’s recommendations have been implemented, others will need to be reviewed or revised, and specific implementation plans may be necessary. Cultural District Development Initiatives, Inc. is updating the plan with respect to the West 7th/University and Trinity Park urban villages.

Downtown

Downtown is a multicultural, progressive, active urban center that capitalizes on cultural resources. It serves as a major entertainment center with a variety of museums, historical exhibits, live entertainment venues, movie theaters, a world-class performing arts hall, ongoing cultural activities, and colorful festivals. In 1995, Downtown Fort Worth was awarded the prestigious James C. Howland Award for Urban Enrichment by the National League of Cities.

Sundance Square, a 16-block collection of graciously restored and replicated turn-of-the-century storefronts, has preserved the architecture and rich heritage of its colorful past. With the support of Fort Worth’s Bass family, the area was renovated in the 1980s and has since turned Downtown into a vibrant destination with office, retail, and entertainment establishments. Today, Sundance Square encompasses a variety of retail uses, restaurants, live theaters, museums, movie theaters, and new and converted housing.

The Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Performance Hall serves as an important symbol of one of the most successful downtown revitalization efforts in the country. Built entirely with private funds, the \$67 million, 2,056-seat facility is the first-ever permanent home of the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, Texas Ballet Theatre (formerly the Fort Worth-Dallas Ballet), Fort Worth Opera, and the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition. It also hosts special productions of Casa Mañana musicals and a Broadway Series. In another demonstration of commitment to the community, the Bass family developed an education program that provides an opportunity for every Tarrant County student to visit Bass Hall each year. The Bass Hall has received the honor of being selected as one of the top ten opera halls in the world, and number three in the United States, behind only those in New York and San Francisco.

The Caravan of Dreams building, formerly a popular music venue, has been renovated to accommodate a western-themed restaurant. The building also includes a roof top Grotto bar, a 212-seat theater, and Etta’s Place, a bed and breakfast facility. The Jubilee Theatre, on Main Street, is a 100-seat house that produces year-round plays and musicals reflecting the African-American experience. The Sid Richardson Collection of Western Art provides an array of exhibits, attracting both residents and tourists. In addition, Circle Theatre, located in the Sanger Building basement in

Special Events in Sundance Square



Sundance Square is a vibrant area with residential, entertainment, and retail elements, and is the location for many festivals and cultural activities. (Source: City of Fort Worth, 1999.)

Bass Performance Hall



The Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Performance Hall in Downtown enhances Fort Worth’s culture through its promotion of art and architecture. It has been selected as one of the ten best opera houses in the world, and was ranked third in the United States by *Travel and Leisure Magazine*, March 1999. (Source: City of Fort Worth, 1999.)

Sundance Square, adds to the live entertainment Downtown.

The Fort Worth Convention Center completed a \$75 million, two phase, expansion and renovation in May 2003. The transformed Convention Center is expected to reinvigorate the south side of Fort Worth's already impressive Downtown.

Historic Stockyards

Showcasing Fort Worth's Western heritage, the Historic Stockyards is one of the most unique and colorful arts and entertainment areas in the state. One hundred years after the establishment of the stopping point along the legendary Chisholm Trail, Fort Worth's Historic Stockyards still represents the history and western heritage of the city. The entire area is on the National Register of Historic Places.

Western shopping, restaurants, and saloons characterize the area, including the legendary White Elephant Saloon, Cowtown Coliseum, and the Stockyards Hotel. Stockyards Station is a festival marketplace and depot for the Tarantula Steam Train, an 1896 locomotive that retraces a portion of the Chisholm Trail through a one-hour narrated ride. The 165,000 square-foot space has a selection of merchandise varying from art works and antiques to clothing, gourmet items, and music. The Stockyards is also home to the Spanish-style Livestock Exchange Building and Billy Bob's Texas, known internationally as the "World's Largest Honky-Tonk" because it attracts more than 700,000 visitors each year.

The Fort Worth Herd Program began in June 1999, coinciding with the City's 150th anniversary celebration. Fifteen longhorns have a home in the Stockyards, and are tended by real cowboys and cowgirls. They are driven daily down Exchange Street, and to the Trinity River once a month. The purpose of the Fort Worth Herd Program is to entertain and educate visitors, as well as provide an authentic interpretation of the history of the cattle industry and its impact on the growth and prosperity of Fort Worth.

Through the years, many studies and plans have been developed for the Historic Stockyards, although the latest plan is about 20 years old. An urban design plan has recently been developed for North Main Street that will create a more attractive and viable corridor from the Stockyards to Downtown. More details on this plan are provided in Chapter 14: Urban Design.

Neighborhood Arts Facilities

In addition to the three primary arts and entertainment districts located in Fort Worth, neighborhood arts facilities are also available to residents and visitors, further enhancing and reflecting the city's character and culture.

The Rose Marine Theatre is a 150-seat, City-owned facility on North Main that is currently managed by the Latin Arts Association, a nonprofit organization. The City has purchased the adjacent building to create office space, rehearsal and dressing rooms, and exhibition space for arts groups.

Fort Worth's Historic Stockyards



Fort Worth's Historic Stockyards offers a unique experience of Old West history. (Source: City of Fort Worth, 1999.)

Chisholm Trail Mural



Increasing artistic displays, such as this Chisholm Trail Mural, in public places will add to the cultural diversity and character in Fort Worth. (Source: City of Fort Worth, 1999.)

The Hip Pocket Theatre is located in northwest Fort Worth, and has staged more than 150 plays, including 80 world premieres.

Thistle Hill is a historic house museum located in the Quality Hill neighborhood. Constructed in 1903, this house typifies the premier residences of cattle barons during the early 1900s. Celebrating the western heritage of Fort Worth, Log Cabin Village is a living history museum consisting of seven authentic log homes from the nineteenth century that display pioneer life on the Texas frontier.

Located in south Fort Worth, the Victory Arts Center is a former convent that recently was developed into market rate housing for the “creative community and arts patrons.” Potential exists at this location for an outdoor sculpture garden that would be available to both tenants and the public.

Neighborhood schools, colleges and universities, churches, library branches, Boys and Girls Clubs, United Community Centers, shopping centers, and other facilities host performing and visual arts activities, as well as arts education programs. To sustain these activities, additional public and private support is needed.

Performing Arts Organizations

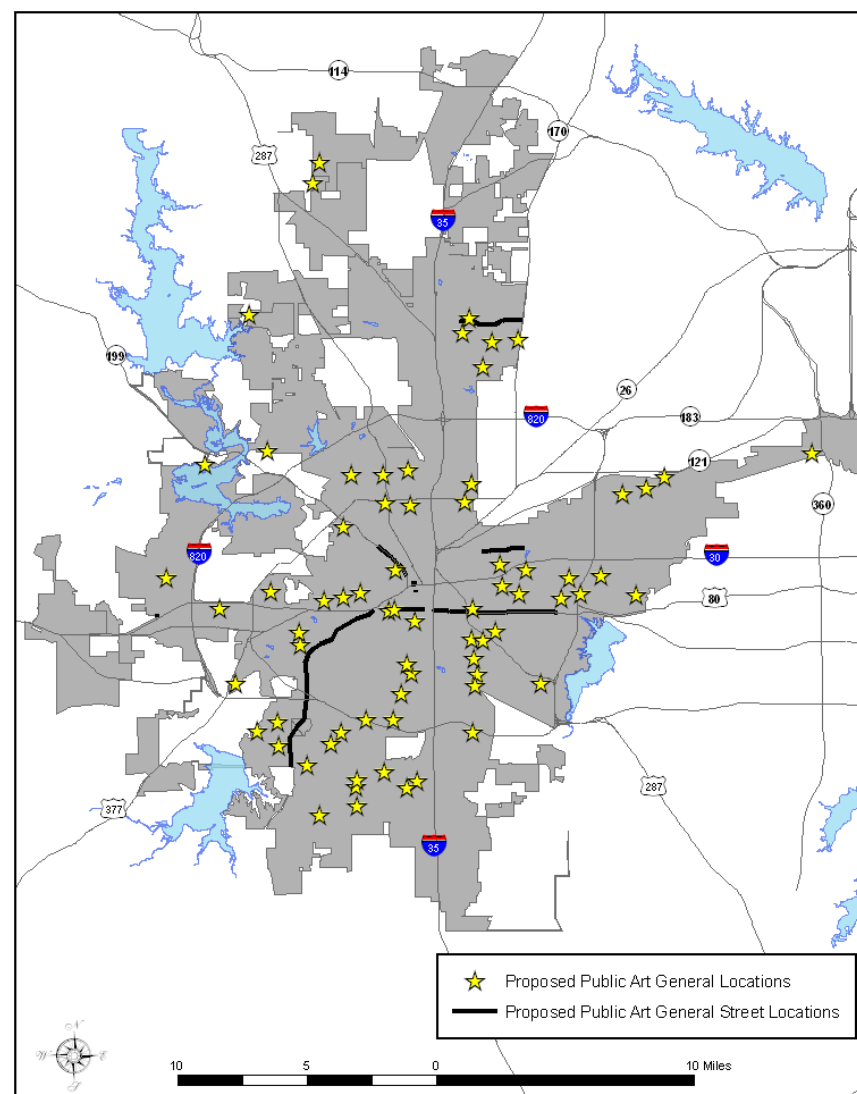
Major performing arts organizations providing artistic and cultural resources to citizens and tourists of Fort Worth include: Texas Ballet Theatre (formerly the Fort Worth-Dallas Ballet), Casa Mañana, Fort Worth Opera Association, Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra Association, Van Cliburn Foundation, Bruce Wood Dance Company, Circle Theatre, Kids Who Care, Imagination Celebration, Jubilee Theatre, Stage West, Texas Boys Choir, Texas Girls Choir and Youth Orchestra of Greater Fort Worth, Ballet Concerto, Ballet Folklorico Azteca de Fort Worth, Contemporary Dance/Fort Worth, Cowtown Opry, Fort Worth Civic Orchestra, Fort Worth Men’s Chorus, North Texas Ballet Theatre, and Texas Wind Symphony. There are over 65 performing arts groups in Fort Worth.

Public Art

In October 2001, the City of Fort Worth created landmark legislation to set aside two percent (2%) of capital construction costs for the creation of public art. The ordinance also established the Fort Worth Art Commission to advise City Council on matters of public art and the development program. Fort Worth Public Art (FWPA) was established to create an enhanced visual environment for Fort Worth residents, commemorate the city’s rich cultural and ethnic diversity, integrate the design work of artists into the development of the City’s capital infrastructure improvements, and to promote tourism and economic vitality in the city through the artistic design of public spaces. The Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County, Inc., manages FWPA.

The City Council’s adoption of the *Fort Worth Public Art Master Plan* in September 2003 marked the first step toward the successful implementation of the program. Following the passage of the 2004 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), the Fort

Potential Public Art Locations



Following the passage of the 2004 Capital Improvement Program (CIP), the Fort Worth Art Commission developed a *Long Range Public Art Plan for the 2004 CIP* that identifies those projects that provide the best opportunities for artist involvement and allow for the greatest public visibility and geographic distribution throughout Fort Worth. (Source: Planning Department, 2005.)

Worth Art Commission developed a *Long Range Public Art Plan for the 2004 CIP* (see Appendix A) that identifies those projects that provide the best opportunities for artist involvement and allow for the greatest public visibility and geographic distribution throughout Fort Worth. The City Council adopted the Long Range Plan in May 2005.

FWPA's first commissioned work - Fort Worth-based artist Vernon Fisher's *Early Texas / Modern Texas* – was installed at the Fort Worth Convention Center in March 2005. Donald Lipski's *Texas Star* – a 26' diameter suspended sculpture composed of hundreds of felt cowboy hats donated by the community – appeared in the Convention Center's 12th Street lobby a few months later.

Other public art projects are underway, including: A Parks Design Enhancement Catalog by Tarrant County-based artists Benito Huerta, Ety Horowitz and Billy Hassell; Eric McGehearty's sculptural installation of bronze firefighters' boots at Fire Station #8; and a kinetic light sculpture for the Rolling Hills Radio Tower by Connie Arismendi and Laura Garanzuay. Design team artist Lorna Jordan participated in the development of the *SH 121 (Southwest Parkway) Corridor Master Plan*. Fort Worth Public Art, in cooperation with two community initiatives, plans to install David Newton's bronze Vaquero sculpture on North Main Street and a sculptural fountain along Camp Bowie Boulevard.

The Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County also maintains the City's art collection, including the newly-acquired Herd Photography Collection. It also provides artist training opportunities and public education programs. Visit the FWPA website for up-to-date information: www.fwpublicart.org

Festivals

The numerous festivals and events that occur year-round in Fort Worth add to the vibrancy of cultural experiences. The Main Street Arts Festival is a marketplace of food, arts, crafts, and live entertainment along Downtown Fort Worth's historic Main Street, and attracts an average of 500,000 visitors each year. Mayfest, a family festival on the banks of the Trinity River, is now a Fort Worth tradition, and draws as many as 390,000 visitors per year. In September of each year, Pioneer Days attracts an average of 75,000 people to the Stockyards National Historic District, and celebrates the early days of the cattle industry and the pioneers who settled on the banks of the Trinity River. In 1998, the first annual Fort Worth Film Festival was held in Downtown Fort Worth. The second annual Magnolia Street Festival was held in 1999 and a Hispanic Festival was held in 2000 in Downtown. Other annual festivals include Chisholm Trail Round-Up, Shakespeare in the Park, Fort Worth Fourth, Parade of Lights, Juneteenth, Cinco de Mayo, and Concerts in the Garden. A Jazz Festival was held in fall 2003 in the Cultural District, sponsored by Historic Camp Bowie, Inc. and was extremely successful. The festival was repeated in fall 2004. Plans are underway to continue this festival as an annual event.

Early Texas / Modern Texas



Vernon Fisher's *Early Texas / Modern Texas* was Fort Worth Public Art's first commissioned work to be completed. It was installed at the Fort Worth Convention Center in March 2005. (Source: Arts Council of Fort Worth, 2005.)

Fire Station 8 Sculpture Proposal



Eric McGehearty's sculpture proposal for Fire Station 8 is based upon the motto, "United We Stand". (Source: Arts Council of Fort Worth, 2005.)

Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County

The agency responsible for funding and leading arts programs and events for the citizens of Fort Worth is the Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County. The Arts Council receives financial support from 1,500 individuals, 170 corporations, 20 foundations, and state, county, and city governments, including the City of Fort Worth. The Council provides annual operating grants totaling more than \$950,000 to 65 arts organizations; administers Fort Worth's Neighborhood Arts Program; and provides managerial assistance to constituents county-wide. The Council also manages the City's Public Art Program and the City-owned Fort Worth Community Arts Center. The Council's primary goal is to facilitate access to a broad range of arts and cultural activities. The Neighborhood Arts Program currently serves Northside, Southside, Polytechnic, Stop Six, Como, and other underserved areas.

To make arts and cultural activities more accessible to the citizens of Fort Worth, a community driven Arts and Cultural Plan for Greater Fort Worth, commissioned by the Arts Council of Fort Worth & Tarrant County, was started in March 2001 and completed in May 2002. The Arts Council worked with the Wolf, Keens & Company, Inc. consulting group from Cambridge, Massachusetts, and a 50-member planning committee on this plan. To develop the plan, more than 225 community leaders were interviewed. The effort resulted in a detailed, action-oriented plan providing specific priorities and recommended actions in the key areas, such as sustaining cultural organizations, facilities, neighborhood cultural development, arts in education, and funding. The plan includes a prioritized list of goals and objectives. The following are among many findings identified in the Arts and Cultural Plan for Greater Fort Worth:

- Despite the extraordinary reputation of Fort Worth's cultural organizations, many of them are significantly undercapitalized.
- The private sector's support of arts and culture is extensive. However, local government support is only 2.3 percent of cultural organizations' total income.
- Fort Worth cultural institutions have enjoyed strong support from the private sector over the years, although corporate support is not as high as in comparable cities, at 4.3 percent of total income.
- Building organizational capacity is important to all Fort Worth's cultural organizations but especially to small and mid-sized groups.
- Increasing art facilities of different sizes is essential.
- Providing opportunities to encounter the city's cultural diversity is necessary for creating common understanding.
- It is essential that non-arts organizations, such as local faith-based and human services organizations, sponsor arts and cultural events, venues, and programs.
- Establishing neighborhood arts centers as permanent homes for local organizations is important.
- Establishing a training program on how to start, operate, and maintain community arts programs and space is necessary.
- Cultural organizations often have a difficult time establishing connections with ethnic communities to establish broader, more diverse participation in the arts.

Longhorns and Mural



Longhorns and Mural 6/12/1999 by Luther Smith is one of 50 images in the Herd Photography Collection, donated to the City of Fort Worth in 2004. (Source: Arts Council of Fort Worth, 2005.)

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The City should collaborate with private and non-profit organizations to achieve the following goal and objectives.

Retain, preserve, and enhance the best of Fort Worth's cultural past and present.

Support public art as a valuable asset to the community.

- Commission public art of the highest quality throughout the city according to the Fort Worth Public Art Master Plan and Long Range Public Art Plan for the 2004 CIP.
- Involve artists in the design of major infrastructure.
- Encourage public entities and private developers to commission public art.
- Provide artist training and public educational programming.
- Conserve the city's collection to museum level standards.

Improve and update cultural resources in the Cultural District.

- Update the Cultural District Master Plan in partnership with Cultural District Development Initiatives, Inc.
- Renovate the Will Rogers Auditorium and Coliseum in phases.
- Determine the feasibility of raising private funds to construct a band shell/amphitheater within or near the Cultural District, as described in the 1990 Cultural District Master Plan. Another possible location, recommended by the Arts and Cultural Plan for Greater Fort Worth and addressed in both the Trinity River Master Plan and the Downtown Master Plan, is on the river in the Downtown area.
- Explore the feasibility of building a new arena with 10,000 to 12,000 seats. A potential location is the City-owned site on Harley Avenue adjacent to the Will Rogers complex.

Improve and ensure the continued success of the Historic Stockyards.

- Cooperate with property owners to prepare an updated Master Plan for the Stockyards National Register District.

The Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County has the following goals:

- Increase both public and private sector funding for the arts.
- Continue to develop the Fort Worth Community Arts Center building into a multipurpose cultural center, affordable and accessible to the entire community.

The Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County and the Fort Worth Independent School District should work together to establish cultural programs for increasingly diverse audiences.

- Determine the feasibility of a high school for performing and visual arts by 2007. Options could include designating an existing high school for performing and visual arts, utilizing an existing facility to establish a performing and visual arts

Fort Worth Community Arts Center



The former Museum of Modern Art building is now home to the Fort Worth Community Arts Center under the management of the Arts Council of Fort Worth & Tarrant County. (Source: Arts Council of Fort Worth & Tarrant County, 2003.)

Amon Carter Museum



The design of the expansion of the Amon Carter Museum complements the original shellstone building, built in 1961. The original building, designed by Philip Johnson, remains intact. (Source: Philip Johnson/Alan Ritchie Architects, 2002.)

high school, or building a new facility. Consider the feasibility of expanding the performing and visual arts program at Arlington Heights High School.

POLICIES AND STRATEGIES

The following recommended policies and strategies are either in progress or suggested as a means of implementation for the arts goals of private and nonprofit organizations and the City.

Recommended Policies

- Encourage the development of Fort Worth's unique art and cultural experiences.
- Encourage coordinated arts opportunities for children throughout the city.
- Provide an effective and inclusive tourism strategy that recognizes the full range of cultural assets and uses them to the best advantage of the entire community.
- Provide opportunities for Fort Worth residents to engage in arts and cultural activities, events, and organizations regardless of their ethnicity, economic status, or location.

Strategies

- Encourage public-private partnerships in arts philanthropy.
- Encourage increased public and private sector support for the arts.
- Encourage countywide coordination of promotion/resource sharing of festivals.
- Encourage reuse of vacant storefronts for arts and performing exhibition spaces.
- Matching performing groups with new and existing spaces.
- Encourage non-profit and private arts organizations to work closely with historic preservation organizations to reuse historical buildings for cultural centers, assisting in neighborhood revitalization.
- Support the Arts Council's objective to provide arts organizations with managerial and technical assistance through the establishment of an arts incubator in the Fort Worth Community Arts Center.
- Support the Arts Council's objective to encourage cost-effective programming and advertising collaborations among arts groups.
- Recognize and utilize the improved Fort Worth Water Gardens as a valuable asset for cultural experiences.
- Enter into discussions with existing artist groups to more fully determine the needs of these groups.
- Include arts and culture as integral components of land use planning and long-range revitalization strategies.
- Encourage non-arts organizations, such as community development corporations and faith-based, human services, and economic development organizations, to sponsor arts and cultural venues, programs, and events.

39 Hour Show



The Fort Worth Community Arts Center hosted a huge crowd on Friday evening, April 11, 2003, for the opening of the 39 Hour Show to celebrate the Arts Center's first "official" art exhibit. (Source: Loli Kantor, 2003.)

Judy Baca Mural Workshop



The young daughter of a participant in the *Judy Baca Mural Workshop* helps add some details to a temporary mural painted in the Fort Worth Community Arts Center. Fort Worth Public Art sponsored the program, which was held March 5, 2005. (Source: Arts Council of Fort Worth, 2005.)

PROGRAMS AND PROJECTS

Programs

- The Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County awards general operating grants and Neighborhood Arts Program grants. General grants are made from funds raised by the Annual Campaign, Toast of the Town and Affair of the Arts. Neighborhood Arts Program (NAP) grants are made from corporate and foundation gifts designated to the Neighborhood Arts Program. Approximately \$950,000 is distributed in grants to nonprofit arts group by the Arts Council on an annual basis.
- The Fort Worth Public Art Program promotes public exposure to a broad range of visual art. This type of program enhances public spaces with art that is integrated into the built environment. Two percent of capital improvement project funds is allocated for public art. The City Council initiated this program through an ordinance approved in October 2001.

Projects

- The Wayfinding project will help provide a continuity of quality, image, and definition along the corridors connecting the Cultural District, Downtown, and Historic Stockyards.
- The Fort Worth Community Arts Center basement will be converted into an educational center at a cost of \$500,000.
- The Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Museum will be opening a new location in the Cultural District in the future. Efforts are currently underway to raise the funds to build the new museum.
- The Museum of Science and History is expanding its exhibit space from 30,000 to 50,000 square feet.
- A new sports arena or coliseum is proposed for the Will Rogers Memorial Center. Funding and location are not yet determined. A potential location is the south side of Harley Avenue, across from the Will Rogers livestock barns. The City's Harley Service Center is currently housed on an 11-acre site at this location. Because of the industrial nature of the service center and future expansion plans for the Cultural District and Botanic Garden, the complex will need to be relocated.
- Visit www.fwpublicart.org for a complete list of public art projects.

Capital Improvement Projects

Capital improvement projects that have been identified for the next 20 years are listed in Appendix D and Appendix E with estimated costs, completion dates, and potential funding sources. Estimated costs have been established for the proposed nine projects with a combined total of \$309.6 million (\$262 million is unfunded).

National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame



The National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame opened in June 2002 in the Cultural District. (Source: David Schwarz/Architectural Services Inc., 2001.)

Casa Mañana



Originally built in 1958, Casa Mañana is a professional theater landmark in Fort Worth, providing live productions for adults and children. Now, a \$4.7 million renovation has transformed the structure into a 21st-century theater, creating a new 11,400 square foot steel-and-glass lobby to accommodate capacity crowds, and a stage and audience chamber featuring a modified thrust/proscenium stage configuration. The notable geodesic dome roof, designed by architect Buckminster Fuller, remains intact. (Source: Gideon Toal, 2003.)